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## For Immediate Release

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## **Vermont Comes Off Tier 3 Federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation**

Montpelier - The Vermont Department of Labor (VDOL) announced today upcoming changes that will occur with the Federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008 (EUC 08) program.

As of June 18, 2011, EUC08 Tier 3 will be phased out in Vermont. This is a result of Vermont's total unemployment rate (TUR) remaining below 6.0% and the Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) declining to 3.61%, a level that is below the 4.0% federal threshold required for Tier 3.

"Based on the Federal criteria, we are fast approaching an end for Vermont to qualify unemployed individuals for Tier 3 extended benefits," said Labor Commissioner Annie Noonan. "The Vermont Department of Labor, particularly our Career Resource Centers' staff, will continue to match up Vermonters seeking jobs with employers who have position openings, with the goal of reducing unemployment and helping businesses recruit and retain good workers", added Noonan.

Approximately 800 UI claimants are currently filing second Tier benefits. Individuals that exhaust their Federal Tier 2 benefits with a payment on or before the week ending June 18, 2011 will be eligible to transition into the third tier. However, claimants that exhaust Tier 2 after week ending June 18, 2011 will not be eligible for additional benefits. Claimants who have already established entitlement to Tier 3 will not be impacted. In addition, qualifying new unemployment claimants will still be able to collect regular unemployment benefits of up to 26 weeks.

For a list of the Department's resource centers and other information, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.labor.vermont.gov">www.labor.vermont.gov</a>.